EXCISE (21)

MABRAY JOYCE A 05/07/82 165305 PRINTER: LI
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PAGE 01 TEL AV 09132 091654Z
ACTION INR-10
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 EB-08 DODE-00 H-01
NEA-06 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 HA-06 DOE-10 PM-09
PA-01 SSM-03 INRE-00 SAL-01 OES-09 SSN-02 ICAE-00
SP-02 DOEE-00 SPRS-02 /086 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7587
USINT BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY
C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 09132
E.O. 12065: RDS-2 6/9/01 (BROWN, WILLIAM A.) OR-M
TAGS: PINR, MPOL, IS
SUBJ: ISRAELI GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON ATTACK AGAINST IRAQI NUCLEAR REACTOR
REF: A. STATE 149355, B. TEL AVIV 9069, C. BAGHDAD 1563
1. (C)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY J.L. DATE 9/30/8
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☒
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☐
RELEASE DENIED☒ in part
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS B-1

B-1

4. (U) THE CITATIONS IN THE BACK UP SHEET PROVIDED BY KIMCHE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:
(U) AL ASBU AL ARABI, (LEBANON) 8 SEPT 1975 -- SADDAM HUSSEIN WAS REPORTED TO HAVE DECLARED THAT THE ACQUISI-

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TION OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY "WAS THE FIRST ARAB ATTEMPT TOWARDS NUCLEAR ARMING ALTHOUGH THE OFFICIALLY DECLARED PURPOSES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A REACTOR WAS NOT NUCLEAR WEAPONS."
(U) AL KABAS (KUWAIT) 30.11.1976 -- IRAQI OIL MINISTER, TAYEH ABD EL KARIM, IN A SPEECH TO OAPEC MINISTERS' COUNCIL ON 23.11.1976 REFUSED TO COMMENT ON REPORTS THAT "IRAQ WILL BE THE FIRST ARAB COUNTRY TO HAVE THE ATOMIC BOMB. HOWEVER, HE SAID, IRAQ INTENDS TO USE NUCLEAR ENERGY ... FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. THE PRODUCTION OF THE ATOMIC BOMB SHOULD BE A PROJECT IN WHICH ALL ARAB STATES SHOULD PARTICIPATE."
(U) INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, 17.6.1980 -- NAIM HADDAD, SENIOR MEMBER OF IRAQ'S RULING REVOLUTIONARY
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COMMAND COUNCIL STATED AT A MEETING OF THE ARAB LEAQUE IN 1977: "THE ARABS MUST GET AN ATOM BOMB. THE ARAB COUNTRIES SHOULD POSSESS WHATEVER IS NECESSARY TO DEFEND THEMSELVES."
(U) SPEECH BY MR. HAIDAR, IRAQI AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL ON THE OCCASION OF THE SIGNING OF A NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT, 29.9.1979: "IF OUR ENEMY, ISRAEL, IS CLOSE TO BUILDING AN ATOMIC BOMB, OR ALREADY HAS ONE, WHAT PREVENTS US FROM DEVELOPING THE SAME CAPACITY?"
(U) SADDAM HUSSEIN ON 25.10.1979 -- "THE DAY MAY COME WHEN THE ZIONIST ENEMY MAY USE EVEN THE ATOMIC BOMB AGAINST THE ARAB HOMELAND AND THE ARAB NATION, BUT AS ARABS EVERYWHERE AND HERE IN IRAQ WE MUST BE DETERMINED NOT TO BE DEFEATED BEFORE THIS USURPING ENEMY. WE MUST ALSO BE DETERMINED TO CREATE ALL THE REQUISITES FOR TRIUMPH OVER THE ENEMY IN ORDER TO SEIZE OUR RIGHTS."
(U) AL WATAN AL ARABI (PARIS), 31.1.1980 -- SADDAM HUSSEIN IN AN INTERVIEW TO THE NEWSPAPER: "ANY STATE WHICH WANTS TO USE THE ATOM FOR MILITARY PURPOSES SHOULD REACH A SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL LEVEL IN ALL FIELDS, NOT ONLY IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD."
(U) THE TIMES, 22.7.1980 IN A REPORT ON SADDAM HUSSEIN'S MEETING WITH JOURNALISTS ON 21.7.80: "PRESIDENT HUSAIN IMPLIED SEVERAL TIMES THAT ARAB NATIONS WOULD BE ABLE TO USE ATOMIC WEAPONS, ADDING--AFTER HIS DENIAL OF ANY INTENTION TO MAKE A BOMB--THAT ENEMY TO BE TOTALLY DIFFERENT IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE." LEWIS
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